



Regional Service Council Minutes

Region # 17

Meeting Date: August 17, 2007

Meeting Location: Dubois County DCS
611 Bartley St.
Jasper, IN 47546

Council Members Present: Susan Lesko, Leslie Rowland, Lisa Bowles, Judge Weikert, David Galloway, Bonita Mattingly, Constance Branch, Georgann Gogel, Amy Smith

Council Members Absent:

Others In Attendance: Lana Tobin, Melinda Berry, Natalie Kassenbrock, John Kuss

<h3>Meeting Minutes</h3>

Meeting Called to Order at: 8:00 A.M.

1. Community Partners:

Natalie Kassenbrock with Ireland & Luzio gave a summary of the referrals for Community Partners for June and July. A total of 25 open cases are currently being serviced. In June there were a total of 12 new referrals; 6 came from Daviess Co., 1 from Dubois Co., 4 from Martin Co. and 1 from Orange Co. As of July 31, 2007 a total of 21 open cases are currently being serviced. In July a total of 10 new referrals were made for consideration and 9 were serviced. (One family failed to engage in services.) Of the referrals; 3 came from Daviess Co., 1 from Dubois Co., 3 from Perry Co. and 3 from Spencer Co.

Community Outreach: Natalie attended all of the counties 4-H fairs. She felt this was successful. Natalie talked to other service providers and gave them information on the services provided by the Community Partners program. She has contacted school superintendents and principals. She is planning on contacting the local radio station in Jasper. She remains in contact with city police and sheriff's departments.

Parenting Classes: Community Partners Program can provide parenting classes if needed. It was noted each county has different needs. Parenting classes for the Spanish speaking members in the community would be very helpful. They can provide gas vouchers which are a real need in the rural areas to get their children to Dr. visits, Riley hospital or whatever the need might be. Council voted to authorize the Community Partners Program to issue gas vouchers. Council voted and gave permission for them to set up parenting classes in each county with the exception of Perry Co. Perry Co. currently has classes in place.

Natalie informed the council that sub-contracting remains a possibility with Hoosier Hills Pact in Orange County and Crawford County. They are still waiting to hear from Southern Hills or Samaritan Center.

2. Strategic Plan, CFSR, and PIP: Regional Mgr. Lesko talked about the Child & Family Services Review (CFSR). This is a federal review held every four years. The counties reviewed in Indiana were Marion Co., Montgomery Co. and Jefferson Co. As a result of the review the region will be doing a Program Improvement Plan (PIP). The state will start developing the plan in September. The will be on permanency and safety outcomes for our children, independent living, and engaging non-custodial parents. Many of these issues are being addressed in our regional strategic plan.

3. Request for Funds:

Orange County director Leslie Rowland requested \$4,000.00 each for Life Skills, Behavior Monitoring, and Home Based Services. These 3 proposals were submitted by Hoosier Hills Pact. Mr. Kuss discussed the programs and what they were providing to the county and how they were programs of prevention. The Council approved the request for funds for the 3 different proposals.

Georgann Gogel director from Perry Co. requested \$1,425.00 for children from Perry and Spencer County to attend the Glenwood Hills summer camp. The Council approved the request for funds.

Constance Branch, director from Spencer Co. requested \$9,000.00 for an after school program through Cliff Hagen Boys/Girls Club for the current school year. The Council approved the request for funds.

A request of \$2,730.00 per agency for Wrap Around services for Dubois, Perry and Spencer Counties out of child welfare funds was approved by the council.

4. Practice Reform:

Leslie Rowland, the practice reform consultant, discussed a team meeting she held as a facilitator. An emergency situation arose with the family and the team

worked until 8:00 that evening and the family left with a plan in hand. This plan prevented a costly placement in a residential or psychiatric facility. Director Rowland stated that she was very impressed with Heather Perkins who is the peer coach trainer and with the process of CFTM.

Next Meeting Date, Location and Time: October 19, 2007 at 8:00 A.M. at the Dubois County DCS, 611 Bartley St., Jasper, IN

Meeting Adjourned at: 10:00 A.M.